

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-62 (Canceled)

63. (Previously Presented) A method for allocating an additional real application server to an existing pool of real application servers, the pool including a first real application server having an application installed therein and communicating with a real data-source server to obtain application data from the data-source server, the additional application server having the application installed therein, the method comprising the steps of:

a real management server for the pool receiving performance data for the first real application server and performance data for the real data-source server;

the real management server, based on the performance data for the first real application server and the performance data for the real data-source server, automatically determining that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, the performance data for the real data-source server indicating an amount of utilization of the real data-source server in providing application data to one or more of the real application servers in the pool, and in response to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization,

the real management server automatically identifying the additional real application server as having the application but not currently allocated to the pool, and

the real management server automatically selecting the real data-source server to provide application data to the additional real application server and automatically sending connection settings for the real data-source server to the additional real application server to configure the additional real application server to send subsequent requests for application data to the real data-source server.

64. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 63 wherein:

in response to the step of the real management server automatically determining that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, further comprising the step of the real management server automatically sending to the additional real application server, port settings for the real data-source server to communicate with the real data-source server to obtain application data from the real data-source server.

65. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 63 further comprising the subsequent steps of:

based on subsequent performance data of the first real application server, the real management server determining that the first real application server is functional but under utilized such that the first real application server is no longer needed in the pool, and in response, the real management server automatically de-allocating the first real application server from the pool.

66. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 63 wherein a multiplicity of copies of the application are installed in a respective multiplicity of the real application servers in the pool.

67. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 63 wherein:

in response to the step of the real management server automatically determining that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, further comprising the step of the real management server automatically sending to the additional real application server a description of an installation path for the real data-source server to support communication with the additional real application server.

68. (Previously Presented) A real management server for allocating an additional real application server to an existing pool of real application servers, the pool including a first real application server having an application installed therein and communicating with a real data-source server to obtain application data from the data-source server, the additional application server having the application installed therein, the real management server comprising:

a CPU, a computer readable memory and a computer readable storage media;

first program instructions to receive performance data for the first real application server and performance data for the real data-source server;

second program instructions, based on the performance data for the first real application server and the performance data for the real data-source server, to determine that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, the performance data for the real data-source server indicating an amount of utilization of the real data-source server in providing application data to one or more of the real application servers in the pool, and in response to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization,

the second program instructions identify the additional real application server as having the application but not currently allocated to the pool, and

the second program instructions select the real data-source server to provide application data to the additional real application server and automatically send connection settings for the real data-source server to the additional real application server to configure the additional real application server to send subsequent requests for application data to the real data-source server; and wherein

the first and second program instructions are stored on the computer readable storage media for execution by the CPU via the computer readable memory.

69. (Previously Presented) The real management server set forth in claim 68 wherein:

in response to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, the second program instructions automatically send to the additional real application server, port settings for the real data-source server to communicate with the real data-source server to obtain application data from the real data-source server.

70. (Previously Presented) The real management server set forth in claim 68 wherein:

the second program instructions, based on subsequent performance data of the first real application server, determine that the first real application server is functional but under utilized such that the first real application server is no longer needed in the pool, and in response, the second program instructions automatically de-allocate the first real application server from the pool.

71. (Previously Presented) The real management server set forth in claim 68 wherein a multiplicity of copies of the application are installed in a respective multiplicity of the real application servers in the pool.

72. (Previously Presented) The real management server set forth in claim 68 wherein:

the second program instructions, responsive to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, automatically send to the additional real application server a description of an installation path for the real data-source server to support communication with the additional real application server.

73. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for execution in a real management server for allocating an additional real application server to an existing pool of real application servers, the pool including a first real application server having an application installed therein and communicating with a real data-source server to obtain application data from the data-source server, the additional application server having the application installed therein, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable storage media;

first program instructions to receive performance data for the first real application server and performance data for the real data-source server;

second program instructions, based on the performance data for the first real application server and the performance data for the real data-source server, to determine that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, the performance data for the real data-source server indicating an amount of utilization of the real data-source server in providing application data to one or more of the real application servers in the pool, and in response to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization,

the second program instructions identify the additional real application server as having the application but not currently allocated to the pool, and

the second program instructions select the real data-source server to provide application data to the additional real application server and automatically send connection settings for the real data-source server to the additional real application server to configure the additional real application server to send subsequent requests for application data to the real data-source server; and wherein

the first and second program instructions are stored on the computer readable storage media.

74. (Previously Presented) The computer program product set forth in claim 73 wherein:

in response to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, the second program instructions automatically send to the additional real application server, port settings for the real data-source server to communicate with the real data-source server to obtain application data from the real data-source server.

75. (Previously Presented) The computer program product set forth in claim 73 wherein:

the second program instructions, based on subsequent performance data of the first real application server, determine that the first real application server is functional but under utilized such that the first real application server is no longer needed in the pool, and in response, the second program instructions automatically de-allocate the first real application server from the pool.

76. (Previously Presented) The computer program product set forth in claim 73 wherein a multiplicity of copies of the application are installed in a respective multiplicity of the real application servers in the pool.

77. (Previously Presented) The computer program product set forth in claim 73 wherein:

the second program instructions, responsive to the determination that the first real application server is functional but has reached a predetermined upper level of utilization, automatically send to the additional real application server a description of an installation path for the real data-source server to support communication with the additional real application server.